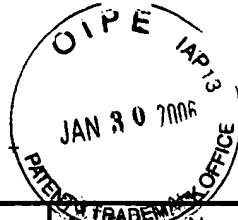


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →



HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

IFW

# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/563,753
Filing Date	January 9, 2006
Inventor(s)	Reinhard MAIER et al.
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32860-000981/US

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

☐ Fee Transmittal Form

☐ Fee Attached

☐ Amendment

☐ After Final

☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐ Extension of Time Request

☐ Express Abandonment Request

☒ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐ Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application

☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

☐ Assignment Papers  
(for an Application)

☐ Letter to the Official Draftsperson and  
\_\_\_\_ Sheets of Formal Drawing(s)

☐ Licensing-related Papers

☐ Petition

☐ Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application

☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation  
Change of Correspondence Address

☐ Terminal Disclaimer

☐ Request for Refund

☐ CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ After Allowance Communication to Group

☐ LETTER SUBMITTING APPEAL  
BRIEF AND APPEAL BRIEF (w/clean  
version of pending claims)

☐ Appeal Communication to Group.  
(Notice of Appeal, Brief, Reply Brief)

☐ Proprietary Information

☐ Status Letter

☒ Other Enclosure(s)  
(please identify below):

**PTO 1449 Form (submitting 17  
documents)  
International Search Report**

Remarks

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm  
or  
Individual name

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.

Attorney Name  
Ray Heflin

Reg. No.  
41,060

Signature

*Ray Heflin*

Date

January 30, 2006



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: **10/563,753**  
Filing Date: January 9, 2006  
Applicant: Reinhard MAIER et al.  
Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Title: ELECTROMAGNETIC SWITCHING DEVICE  
Attorney Docket: 32860-000981/US

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Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
**Mail Stop Amendment**

January 30, 2006

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. **LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto.

II. **COPIES**

A. ☐ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications unless required by the Office; (iii) for each cited pending unpublished U.S. application listed below in Section IV, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. ☐ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form PTO-1449 or on the copies of Form PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the

following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. ☒ Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

D. ☐ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. ☐ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. ☒ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1. ☐ See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application:
2. ☒ English language abstracts are provided for: WO 01/41174 A1, DE 10126854 A1, DE 29506744 U1, DE 10202476 A1, DE 10031923 A1, DE 19735271 C2, DE 19700521 C2, WO 01/86682 A2, FR 2809860, DE 10016318 A1, DE 19806720 A1, DE 4129265 A1, DE 19506168 A1.
3. ☒ Other: International Search Report

C. ☒ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration. German Office Action and PCT Written Opinion

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.

Filing Date

Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. ☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check only one box)

1. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. ☒ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check only one box)

☐ before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. ☐ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. ☐ See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

☐ after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. ☐ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

- A. ☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or
- B. ☐ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).
- C. ☐ Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

- A. ☒ No fee is believed to be due.
- B. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- C. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

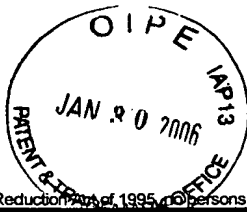
HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By Ray Heflin  
Ray Heflin, Reg. No. 41,060

P.O. Box 8910  
Reston, Virginia 20195  
(703) 668-8000

DJD/HRH:img

Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s) (1 sheet(s))  
☒ Documents  
☒ International Search Report  
☐ Fee  
☒ Other: German Office Action and PCT Written Opinion



PTO/SB/08a (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/563,753
Filing Date	January 9, 2006
First Named Inventor	Reinhard MAIER et al.
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32800-000901/US

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,243,313 ✓	09-07-1993	Westinghouse	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 01/86682 A2	11-15-2001	Moeller		X
		DE 101 26 854 A1	12-19-2002	Siemens		X
		DE 295 06 744 U1	08-24-1995	Buerkert Werke		X
		DE 102 02 476 A1	08-07-2003	Tyco; BMW		X
		DE 100 31 923 A1	01-17-2002	Bosch		X
		DE 197 35 271 C2	02-25-1999	Bosch		X
		DE 197 00 521 C2	07-16-1998	Siemens		X
		WO 01/41174 A1	06-07-2001	Siemens		X
		EP 0 505 194 A1	09-23-1992	Westinghouse		
		EP 0 720 194 A1	07-03-1996	OMRON		
		FR 2 809 860	12-07-2001	Schneider		X
		DE 100 16 318 A1	10-19-2000	Schneider		X
		DE 198 06 720 A1	08-13-1998	Bosch		X
		GB 2 278 959	12-14-1994	Harwood		
		DE 41 29 265 A1	03-04-1993	Mannesmann		X
		DE 195 06 168 A1	08-29-1996	Siemens		X
		EP 0 959 484 A2	11-24-1999			

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.